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FLOOR DEBATE

March 17, 2004 LB 962, 962A

once again, because it's LB 962A is carrying the weight of the bill. Now there's several ways to finance it, including General Funds, which is \$2.5 million. There's also, you can do Environmental Trust Fund at \$2.5 million, or something in between. That will be up to the body. But so everyone knows exactly where I'm at, I'm voting for LB 962 because I deeply believe in LB 962. But we're not allowing for it in our General Fund budget at this point. That will be your decision as time comes along, whether you want to do General Fund or Environmental Trust Fund. That's going to be a significant discussion, to say it mildly. But I'm voting for it. And I filed the amendment accordingly to take it out, \$2.5 million entirely out of the Environmental Trust Fund for the next two years. That's the discussion that I...will be coming. But if you're wondering why I'm voting for the bill, I'm voting for the bill because it comes out of the Environmental Trust Fund, per my understand...not understanding, per my thoughts at this point, and it will not be General Funded for the next two years. And that has to do with the balancing of the budget and the budget briefing that you'll get tomorrow morning at 8:00 and the budget debate we'll have tomorrow afternoon. But I want to clarify for those who are wondering, how can you vote for it if...because of the cost? And I've told Senator Schrock many times, I believe in it, I've supported LB 962, and I do. But at this point in time, it should probably come out of General Fund. But to do the budget discussion which we'll have, I think these next two years needs to come out of the Environmental Trust Fund. And I filed the amendment accordingly, so you're clear. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Further discussion on FA1513. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. Senator Schrock, can I have a dialog with you?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The nature of the way things move, not everybody has been privy to discussions that you and I have had